

THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

- 5 1. An electric power bar, comprising:
 - a body;
 - an electrical cord adapted to plug the body into an electrical outlet of a building;
 - the body having at least one female receptacle which receives power via the electrical cord, the female receptacle being adapted to receive a plug from one of a computer or
- 10 ancillary equipment whereby power is supplied to the computer or the ancillary equipment;
 - the body having a communications module, whereby the communications module serves as a conduit for sending and receiving messages; and
 - the body having at least one of an Ethernet receptacle, an universal serial bus receptacle, or a telephone jack receptacle in communication with the communications module, whereby a computer is connected to the communications module.
- 20 2. The electric power bar as defined in Claim 1, wherein the communications module has a phone line in receptacle and a phone line out receptacle.
- 20 3. The electric power bar as defined in Claim 1, wherein the body has an Ethernet receptacle, an universal serial bus receptacle, and a telephone jack receptacle all in communication with the communications module, whereby a computer can be connected in one of several different ways to the communications module.
- 25 4. The electric power bar as defined in Claim 1, wherein the communications module comprises a replaceable modem.